

49. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the server is electronically accessible through the Internet.

50. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the server is electronically accessible through an internal network.

51. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the server is electronically accessible to users of a particular product, service, software, or information.

52. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the value information comprises value judgments.

53. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the value information comprises navigational pointers that point to information that a user has determined to be useful.

54. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which each of the client systems includes a software application that embeds a pointer to the server that enables a user to invoke the server directly from the software application to obtain value information related to the use of the client system.

55. (reiterated) The system of claim 54 in which the pointer is automatically displayed during use of the client system.

56. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the server prompts at least some of the client systems to supply additional value information to the server.

57. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the server receives information from a client software application that periodically supplies additional value information to the server.

58. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the server initiates delivery to the client systems of value information concerning products, services, software, or information of interest to the users of the client systems.

59. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the value information is continually updated.

60. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the server provides addresses of, and at least one of rankings, comments, and ratings of the products, services, software, or information.

61. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the software is further configured to detect uses by a user of the products, services, software, or information.

62. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the software is further configured to prompt the user for an assessment of the value of the products, services, software, or information used.

63. (reiterated) The system of claim 62 in which the assessment information is returned to the server from the client system.

64. (reiterated) The system of claim 62 in which the assessment information is stored at the client system and periodically returned to the server from the client system.

65. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the server collects value information when at least one of the following occurs:

- a user uses the products, services, or information on-line,
- a user uses the products, services, or information from versions that are downloaded to the client system, and
- another server shares the value information with the server.

66. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 further comprising presenting distributed value information to a user in a style comprising: text, lists, charts, views, arrangements, hierarchies, graphical maps, sample extracts, abstracts, summary descriptions, or hypertext.

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• 67. (amended) A system comprising:

a digital medium storing information generated by independent users about the value of products, services, software, or information, the medium being coupled to an electronic communication network; and

an electronic communication interface that receives the information from the users to the digital medium and sends stored value information from the medium to the users in response to actions associated with usage of products, services, software or information by the users.

68. (reiterated) The system of claim 67 in which the users generate the new value information interactively while using the stored value information.

69. (reiterated) The system of claim 67 further comprising digital filters configured to identify patterns of sources of value information and fetch the identified information over the network.

70. (reiterated) The system of claim 69 in which the services comprise video or music, the value information concerns the content of the video or music, and the filter controls the display of video or music based on the content represented in the value information.

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• 71. (amended) The system of claim 69 in which the filters provide information to the server about user preferences, and the server makes the information available to vendors of the products, services, software or information.

72. (reiterated) A method in which a user of a commodity records value information on a client device about the commodity that is based on use of the commodity, the client device sends the information to a server for storage, the client device receives from the server additional value information recorded by other users, in response to an event based on the user's interaction with the commodity, and the client device presents the additional value information to the user in the course of the user's interaction with the commodity.

73. (reiterated) The system of claim 48, wherein the stored value information comprises customer desires or user-set preferences.

74. (amended) The system of claim 48, wherein the trigger is activated by an occurrence that satisfies a condition determined by customer desires or user-set preferences.

75. (reiterated) The system of claim 48, wherein the trigger comprises use of a product, service, or software feature.

76. (amended) A system comprising a server that is electronically accessible to multiple client systems;
the server storing value information indicative of the values of respective products, services, software, or information as determined by users of the products, services, software, or information, and

software configured to:

receive value information electronically from the client systems regarding what would make a product, service, software, or information valuable, wherein the received value information obtained from the client systems comprises information obtained from passive evaluation of user interactions with a product, service, software, or information,

store the received value information, and

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in response to a trigger from one of the client systems, distribute the stored value information for the product, service, software, or information electronically to the one of the client systems.

77. (reiterated) The system of claim 48, wherein the value information distributed to one of the client systems comprises value information received from another client system.

78. (reiterated) The system of claim 48, wherein the value information distributed to one of the client system comprises instructions for use of the respective products, services, software, or information.

79. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the trigger comprises premature termination of a product, service, or software feature.

80. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the trigger comprise an exception resulting from use of a product, service, or software feature.

81. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the trigger comprises a user-initiated help request during use of a product, service, or software feature.

82. (reiterated) The system of claim 66 in which the style comprises hypertext.

83. (reiterated) The system of claim 76 in the value information comprises usage logs.

84. (reiterated) The system of claim 76 in which the value information comprises information about user comprehension.

85. (reiterated) The system of claim 76 in which the value information comprises information about user performance.

• 86. (amended) A system comprising a server that is electronically accessible to multiple client systems;

the server storing value information indicative of the values of respective products, services, software, or information as determined by users of the products, services, software, or information, and

software configured to:

receive value information electronically from the client systems regarding what would make a product, service, software, or information valuable, wherein the received value information comprises usage logs,

store the received value information, and

in response to a trigger from one of the client systems, distribute the stored value information for the product, service, software, or information electronically to the one of the client systems.

87. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the value information comprises information about user comprehension or performance.

88. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the software is further configured to share information with another server.

89. (reiterated) The system of claim 67 further comprising filters configured to identify patterns of sources of value information.

90. (reiterated) The method of claim 72 in which the device comprises software.

91. (reiterated) The method of claim 72 in which the device is part of the commodity.

92. (reiterated) The method of claim 72 in which the device stores a script for probing a user for value information.

93. (reiterated) The method of claim 92 in which the device receives the script from the server.

94. (reiterated) The method of claim 72 in which the value information guides the users interaction with the commodity.

95. (reiterated) The method of claim 72 in which the event is a user request.

96. (reiterated) The method of claim 91 in which the event is an exception resulting from use of the commodity.

97. (reiterated) The system of claim 67 in which the actions are user requests.

98. (amended) A system comprising a server that is electronically accessible to multiple client systems;

the server storing value information indicative of the values of respective products, services, software, or information as determined by users of the products, services, software, or information, and

software configured to:

receive value information electronically from the client systems regarding what would make a product, service, software, or information valuable,

store the received value information, and

in response to a preset periodic trigger from one of the client systems, distribute the stored value information for the product, service, software, or information electronically to the one of the client systems.

• 99. (amended) A system comprising a server that is electronically accessible to multiple client systems;

the server storing value information indicative of the values of respective products, services, software, or information as determined by users of the products, services, software, or information, and

software configured to:

receive value information electronically from the client systems regarding what would make a product, service, software, or information valuable,

store the received value information, and

in response to a trigger, activated by a client system threshold, from one of the client systems, distribute the stored value information for the product, service, software, or information electronically to the one of the client systems.

100. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the trigger is activated by an installation event.

101. (reiterated) The system of claim 48 in which the trigger evaluates a pattern of use of the respective products, services, software or information.

102. (amended) A system comprising a server that is electronically accessible to multiple client systems;

the server storing value information indicative of the values of respective products, services, software, or information as determined by users of the products, services, software, or information, and

software configured to:

receive value information electronically from the client systems regarding what would make a product, service, software, or information valuable,

store the received value information, and

in response to a trigger from one of the client systems, distribute the stored value information for the product, service, software, or information electronically to the one of the

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client systems, wherein the trigger is a function of a customer valuation of the respective product, service, software, or information.

• 103. (reiterated) The method of claim 72 in which the information received by the client device comprises navigational pointers.

• 104. (reiterated) The method of claim 72 in which the information received by the client device comprises hypertext.

• 105. (reiterated) The system of claim 67 in which the stored value information sent by the interface comprises navigational pointers.

• 106. (reiterated) The system of claim 67 in which the stored value information sent by the interface comprises hypertext.

• 107. (reiterated) The system of claim 67 in which the actions relate to user comprehension of the products, services, software, or information.

Please add claims 108-117.

-- 108. (new) The system of claim 48 in which the value information obtained from the client system is obtained from passive evaluation.

109. (new) The system of claim 108 in which the value information comprises usage logs.

110. (new) The system of claim 108 in which the value information comprises information about user comprehension.

111. (new) The system of claim 108 in which the value information comprises information about user performance.

112. (new) The system of claim 48 in which the trigger is a preset periodic trigger.

113. (new) The system of claim 48 wherein the value information comprises usage logs.

114. (new) The system of claim 76 wherein the value information comprises information about user comprehension or performance.

115. (new) The system of claim 86 wherein the value information comprises information about user comprehension or performance.

116. (new) The system of claim 99 in which the value information obtained from the client system is obtained from passive evaluation.

117. (new) The system of claim 102 in which the value information obtained from the client system is obtained from passive evaluation. --

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